

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method of delubrication of parts containing lubricant on a belt comprising:
 - 2 a) moving the parts on the belt into a chamber of the furnace, the chamber
 - 3 having a vent for removing combustible atmosphere;
 - 4 b) heating the parts uniformly from underneath the belt, by forcing hot
 - 5 atmosphere through the belt;
 - 6 c) igniting unused combustible atmosphere in the chamber above the parts
 - 7 on the belt, using a burner; and
 - 8 d) allowing the atmosphere above the parts to escape through the vent.

- 1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of heating the belt with a belt
- 2 warmer.

- 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the belt warmer is an electric element.

- 1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the electric element applies heat in a range of 100°F to
- 2 1500°F.

- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the belt warmer, at least one blower, and at least one
- 2 source of the hot atmosphere are surrounded by a heat shield.

- 1 6. The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of independently controlling the at
- 2 least one blower and the at least one source of hot atmosphere.

- 1 7. The method of claim 5, wherein the at least one blower applies a pressure range of 5 to
- 2 100 psi and a volume range of 20 to 2000 cfm.

- 1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the hot atmosphere has a temperature range of 400°F to
- 2 1600°F.

- 1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the hot atmosphere is air.

- 1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the hot atmosphere is rich in an oxidizing agent.

1 11. A delubrication apparatus for use with a furnace, the apparatus comprising:

1 an vented chamber for receiving a belt, carrying parts containing lubricant;

2 at least one plenum located beneath the belt, the plenums each having a
3 heat source and blower to provide uniform heat to the parts on the
4 belt; and

5 a burner above the parts on the belt for igniting unused combustible
6 atmosphere in the vented chamber; and

7 wherein the blower of each plenum forces the atmosphere around the parts
8 containing lubricant to exit the vented chamber through a vent.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising a belt warmer for heating the belt.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the belt warmer is surrounded by a heat shield.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the belt warmer is an electric element.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the electric element applies heat in a range of
2 100°F to 1500°F.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the at least one plenum is surrounded by a heat
2 shield.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the heat source and the blower underneath the belt
2 are independently controlled.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the heat source of the at least one plenum applies a
2 temperature in the range of 400°F to 1600°F.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the blowers of the at least one plenum applies a
2 pressure range of 5 to 100 psi and a volume range of 20 to 2000 cfm.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the hot atmosphere is air.

1 21. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the hot atmosphere is rich in an oxidizing agent.